

## Message Text

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ACTION SS-25

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FM AMEMBASSY LUSAKA

TO AMEMBASSY GEORGETOWN

INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2518

S E C R E T LUSAKA 2457

EXDIS

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR PINS MOPS CU UR AO

SUBJECT: GUYANA'S READING ON ANGOLAN SITUATION

REF: GEORGETOWN 2103

1. IN CONVERSATION WITH UNITA PRESIDENT JONAS SAVIMBI DEC 9 I SPECIFICALLY ASKED HIM (GEORGETOWN'S EARLIER 2046, PARA 2) IF RUMOR CORRECT THAT MPLA'S AGOSTINO NETO HAD MADE AN OVERTURE TO SAVIMBI PRESUMABLY IN SEARCH OF A POLITICAL RATHER THAN A MILITARY SETTLEMENT OF THEIR DIFFERENCES. SAVIMBI FLATLY DENIED SUCH AN APPROACH. NEVERTHELESS IN TWO SEPARATE PRESS CONFERENCES IN LUSAKA, SAVIMBI SAID HE IS PREPARED TO NEGOTIATE A SETTLEMENT. WITH REGARD TO REFTEL REPORT OF GOG HIGH COMMISSIONER GRANT IN LUSAKA THAT THERE IS A SPLIT BETWEEN UNITA AND FNLA, I SPECIFICALLY ASKED SAVIMBI HOW HIS RELATIONS WITH ROBERTO WERE GOING. HE TOLD ME THEY WERE WORKING EFFECTIVELY TOGETHER BUT DID NOT ELABORATE. MORE RECENTLY IN DEC 15 KAMPALA PRESS CONFERENCE SAVIMBI SPOKE OF HIS CLOSE WORKING RELATIONS WITH FNLA.

2. GUYANAN FONMIN WILLS SURELY KNOWS FROM HIS OWN EXPERIENCE IN LUSAKA THAT ZAMBIAN CAPITAL IS A BIG RUMOR MILL BASED ON ADMIXTURE OF FACT AND SURMISAL FROM EXCHANGES OF VIEWS BETWEEN DIPLOMAT AND RESIDENT

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REPRESENTATIVES OF ANGOLAN AND RHODESIAN LIBERATION

MOVEMENTS. EVEN ZAMBIAN FOREIGN MINISTRY AT FAIRLY HIGH LEVEL IS SURPRISINGLY OFTEN POORLY INFORMED AT BEST. KEY LEADERS SUCH AS SAVIMBI OF ANGOLA AND NKOMO OF ANC NOW FREQUENT LUSAKA ONLY OCCASIONALLY AND THEIR RES REPS HERE ARE OFTEN OF SECOND OR THIRD STRING CALIBRE AND TIGHT-LIPPED UNLESS FINANCIALLY ASSISTED BY INQUIRING FOREIGN DIPLOMAT. MANY COMPETING POLITICAL FORCES, SUCH AS FNLA AND MPLA OF ANGOLA, AND MUZOREWA AND SITHOLE OF EXTERNAL ANC, HAVE SHIFTED THEIR BASES AWAY FROM LUSAKA.

3. WHILE IT INTERESTING THAT WILLS HAS TAKEN STANCE OF AWAITING OAU DECISION ON ANGOLA, WE WOULD HOPE HE SEES VIRTUE FOR GUYANA IN TRYING TO INFLUENCE OAU COUNCIL OF MINISTERS OR SUMMIT DECISION IN FAVOR OF CEASEFIRE AND GOVERNMENT OF NATIONAL UNITY RATHER THAN SYMPATHY AND SUPPORT FOR ANY ONE MOVEMENT WHICH POLICY WOULD BE DIVISIVE OF OAU AND OBSTACLE TO COALITION GOVERNMENT. ALSO HOPE GUYANA FINDS IT IN ITS OWN INTERESTS TO HIT RUSSIANS AND CUBANS HARD IN PUBLIC STATEMENTS AS IT RECOMMENDED TO KAUNDA AND AS HE HAS DONE. PRESIDENT KAUNDA'S LATEST VIEWS ON ANGOLA WHICH BOTH LOCAL TIMES AND MAIL HAVE PICKED UP HAVE BEEN TO WARN FELLOW AFRICANS AGAINST EMOTIONALISM AND URGE AFRICA TO FIND ITS VOICE TO CONDEMN ALL FOREIGN INTERVENTION, IMPLICITLY NOT JUST SOUTH AFRICAN.

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